

COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday the 4th of August 1931.

19th of Karkadagam 1106.

The House met at Half-past Eleven of the Clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. K. T. Mathew, A. Sankara Poduval, P. K. Subramania Ayyar and P. I. Varugis were absent.

Questions and Answers.

Communication—Anandapuram and Muriyad.

21. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state what arrangements have been made to connect the Villages of Anandapuram and Muriyad with the main road ;

(2) how much money is spent for same ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) The construction of the road in question has been referred to the Road Board for consideration.

(2) An expenditure of Rs. 4—6—0 has been incurred this year by the Panchayat for taking levels, etc.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(1) By whom was it referred?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government asked the Registrar to place it before the Board.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Registrar of Panchayats ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(2) What is this 'etc.'? There is only Rs. 4—6—0.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—To prepare plans and levels.

Encouragement to Muslim girls in Vernacular Schools.

22. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether any special encouragement is shown to Muslim girls attending Vernacular schools ;

- (b) if the answer is in the negative, why it is so ;
- (c) will the Government be pleased to extend to them some immediate encouragement?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) No.

(b) Because vernacular education is free.

(c) The question of granting any further concession will be considered after the Educational Survey.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—With regard to (b), may I know whether vernacular education is not free in the case of all girls?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is free in the case of all.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—The question was whether any special encouragement was shown to Muslim girls. That vernacular education is free is applicable to non-Muslim girls also.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The point in the answer is that, where there is a general concession Government did not think that a special concession was necessary. When the concession is whole-sale, the need for further concession ceases.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Do the Government think that this free education is availed of by a large number of Muslim girls?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—That was the report received from the Inspecting officer, and the facts show that in the course of two years the expenditure with regard to the grant of special concession went up from two thousand to ten thousand which shows that there is an increase in the number of Muslim girls attending the schools.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—There was an increase from two thousand to ten thousand for expenditure to the Muslim girls?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

23. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government kindly state:—

- (a) whether any special encouragement was ever shown to Muslim girls of Vernacular Primary Schools;
- (b) if so, for what period?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) From the beginning of the educational year 1101 to 16th Chingam 1102.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—May I know why it was discontinued from 1102?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The reason is merely a question of expenditure.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Am I to take it that this special encouragement was deemed necessary?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—This was deemed necessary, as I said, and it was allowed to operate for some time, when the amount of money involved went up from two thousand to ten thousand which also showed that there was a remarkable increase in the number of girls attending the schools. The concession being in the nature of an exception, Government thought that the time had come to withdraw the concession. The question of expenditure is only partial.

School-going population.

24. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

the latest statistics about the school-going population and the number of persons of the school-going age, males and females separately classified, of the following communities:—

i. Caste-Hindus. ii. Non-caste-Hindus. iii. Christians. iv. Jews v. Muslims.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The Census Superintendent has already been asked to collect the necessary statistics which will be ready only when the several statements are compiled in his office.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—May I know whether we can expect these statistics early?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is bound up with the census operation to a certain extent.

Chennamangalam Panchayat.—Civil powers.

25. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state why the scheme for conferring civil powers on the Chennamangalam Panchayat is left in pendation so long?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The matter will be considered along with the general question of investing all the Panchayats with civil powers.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether there are already some Panchayats with civil powers?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes, there are.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—So the question will be decided soon.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There has not been any request from the Panchayat for the last so many years. There was a meeting and in their representation so many other things were also included. It was thought desirable to decide the question with the general question. It may be necessary to have some re-grouping.